

# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

## FOR SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN COUNTIES

NOVEMBER 2003



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### October Local Labor Scene

The October seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the **Janesville/Beloit Metropolitan Area** was 6.3 percent, down more than half a percent as compared to September's reading of 6.9 percent. This October's rate is up one-tenth of a percentage point compared against the 6.2 percent recorded in October 2002.

All six Southwest Counties experienced declining unadjusted unemployment rates in October. In addition, four Southwest Wisconsin counties

(Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, & Richland) joined the 39 of Wisconsin's 72 counties that had lower unadjusted unemployment rates in October 2003 than in October 2002. Iowa County's rate was a half a percent lower, Richland's almost a full percent, and Lafayette County's rate was 2.2 percent lower

this October as compared to last. Rock was one of seven Wisconsin counties where the unadjusted unemployment was unchanged as compared to last October and Green County was one of 26 Wisconsin counties where this October's unadjusted rate was higher than last October's rate, up by one-tenth of a percentage point.

### Statewide Notes

Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated to be 5.4 percent in October, three-tenths of a

percentage point lower than September's estimate and one-tenth lower than the October 2002 estimate. Wisconsin's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in October dropped over the month three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.6 percent.

### National Notes

At six percent, October's national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is one-tenth of a percentage point lower than the 6.1

percent unemployment rate recorded in September and two-tenths higher than the rate recorded for October 2002.

According to the National Association for Business Economics (NABE) the US economy, fueled by tax cuts and low interest rates, could grow at

its fastest rate in 20 years in 2004. Unfortunately, according to the NABE, this growth will do little to decrease national unemployment rates in 2004. Vigorous economic growth will continue in 2004, but so will strong increases in productivity, as companies will be under competitive pressures find more ways to expand output without hiring new employees. The NABE projects payroll employment rising by 1.1 percent in 2004 (about 1.3 million workers in 2004), not enough to replace the 2.3 million jobs that have been lost since January 2001.

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Janesville/Beloit MSA	Wisconsin (000s)	United States (000s)
<b>Current month: October 2003</b>			
Civilian Labor Force	79,800	3,111.6	146,793
Employment	74,700	2,944.5	138,014
Unemployment	5,000	167.1	8,779
Unemployment rate	6.3%	5.4%	6.0%
<b>Change from one month ago</b>			
Civilian Labor Force	500	5.1	248
Employment	800	15.5	441
Unemployment	-400	-10.4	(194)
Unemployment rate	-0.6%	-0.3%	-0.1%
<b>Change from one year ago</b>			
Civilian Labor Force	2,500	84.4	1,400
Employment	2,200	83.5	1,026
Unemployment	200	0.9	374
Unemployment rate	0.1%	-0.1%	0.2%

*Note: All estimates are preliminary and based on place of residence.*

October 2003	Grant	Green	Iowa	Lafayette	Richland	Rock	Region	Non MSA's *	Wisconsin
<b>Civilian Labor Force**</b>	25,673	17,273	15,059	7,375	8,452	79,266	153,098	73,832	3,094,186
Employed	24,750	16,528	14,686	7,069	8,164	74,715	145,912	71,197	2,953,354
Unemployed	923	745	373	306	288	4,551	7,186	2,635	140,832
Unemployment rate(%)	3.6	4.3	2.5	4.1	3.4	5.7	4.7	3.6	4.6
<b>Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***</b>	19,700	13,800	12,100	3,640	5,900	68,400	123,500	55,100	2,811,200
Total Private	14,300	12,000	10,600	2,570	4,700	59,500	103,700	44,200	2,393,000
Goods Producing	3,700	3,600	1,200	640	1,700	18,600	29,400	10,800	637,100
Service Producing	16,000	10,200	10,900	3,000	4,200	49,800	94,200	44,400	2,174,100
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	700	800	600	160	200	3,100	5,500	2,400	127,600
Manufacturing	3,000	2,800	600	480	1,500	15,500	23,900	8,400	509,500
Trade	2,700	2,800	6,500	670	1,100	13,100	26,800	13,700	441,700
Transportation & Utilities	500	300	300	190	100	2,600	4,100	1,500	322,700
Financial Activities	1,100	400	200	190	300	2,000	4,200	2,200	158,400
Education and Health Services	2,300	2,200	900	310	600	8,700	15,100	6,400	372,900
Leisure & Hospitality	1,800	1,400	1,100	280	500	5,700	10,800	5,100	241,300
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	2,100	1,300	400	300	400	8,800	13,300	4,500	435,300
Total Government	5,400	1,820	1,490	1,060	1,190	8,900	19,900	11,000	418,200
Federal	170	100	90	70	60	300	800	500	28,500
State	2,300	40	90	40	210	500	3,200	2,700	101,900
Local	2,930	1,680	1,310	960	920	8,100	15,900	7,800	287,800
<b>Change from one month ago</b>	<b>September 2003</b>								
<b>Civilian Labor Force**</b>	700	240	380	160	100	500	2,090	1,600	5,400
Employed	770	350	450	200	130	800	2,680	1,900	15,600
Unemployed	-80	-110	-70	-40	-30	-300	-590	-300	-10,200
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.4	-0.7	-0.5	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3
<b>Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***</b>	410	160	270	0	0	1,000	1,800	800	20,200
<b>Percent change NFWS last month</b>	2.1%	1.2%	2.2%	0.1%	0.0%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	0.7%
Total Private	0	100	200	-30	-100	600	800	200	-2,000
Goods Producing	0	0	0	-20	0	100	0	-100	-5,800
Service Producing	500	200	300	30	0	900	1,900	1,000	26,000
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-10	-10	10	0	-10	0	0	0	-800
Manufacturing	-30	20	-40	-30	-30	100	0	-100	-5,000
Trade	-20	60	290	-10	0	200	500	300	5,100
Transportation & Utilities	0	10	0	0	0	100	100	0	4,700
Financial Activities	20	-10	0	0	10	0	0	0	-200
Education and Health Services	40	-10	20	0	0	400	400	0	5,500
Leisure & Hospitality	-50	-50	-70	0	0	-200	-400	-200	-7,600
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	30	80	0	0	-20	0	100	100	300
Total Government	450	70	60	40	50	400	1,100	700	22,200
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100
State	290	0	-10	0	10	0	300	300	3,600
Local	160	70	70	40	40	400	800	400	18,700
<b>Change from one year ago</b>	<b>October 2002</b>								
<b>Civilian Labor Force*</b>	750	-640	-160	0	30	2,400	2,400	0	77,900
Employed	810	-640	-530	160	110	2,300	2,600	400	75,900
Unemployed	-60	-10	-80	-160	-70	200	-200	-400	2,000
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	-2.2	-0.9	0.0	-0.2	-0.5	0.0
<b>Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***</b>	340	-850	-310	60	-10	600	-200	-800	3,500
<b>Percent change NFWS last year</b>	1.8%	-5.8%	-2.5%	1.8%	-0.2%	0.9%	-0.1%	-1.4%	0.1%
Total Private	400	-700	-300	70	0	700	200	-500	11,500
Goods Producing	100	-200	-100	-10	0	0	-200	-200	-24,700
Service Producing	300	-700	-200	70	0	600	0	-600	28,200
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	20	80	0	20	0	0	100	100	-6,700
Manufacturing	40	-240	-70	-30	-50	0	-300	-300	-17,900
Trade	-50	-320	-310	20	0	800	100	-700	10,100
Transportation & Utilities	0	30	-20	-10	0	-200	-200	0	5,800
Financial Activities	70	0	10	0	20	100	200	100	4,800
Education and Health Services	60	-20	50	40	20	200	400	200	12,000
Leisure & Hospitality	160	100	50	30	30	-200	200	400	3,600
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	70	-290	-10	0	20	0	-200	-200	5,700
Total Government	-40	-200	-10	-10	-60	-100	-400	-300	-8,000
Federal	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1,000
State	20	0	-10	10	10	0	0	0	-2,200
Local	-50	-200	0	-20	-70	-100	-400	-300	-4,800

\* Five counties, excluding Rock County \*\* Includes participants residing in area. \*\*\* Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2002

**Look for the most current Labor Market Information at:** <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/>  
Direct questions and comments to: **William Brockmiller, Labor Market Analyst**  
La Crosse Job Center, 402 North 8th Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601  
608-785-9337 E-mail: [william.brockmiller@dwd.state.wi.us](mailto:william.brockmiller@dwd.state.wi.us)